

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
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FOR WEEK OF: November 10 - November 16

GENERAL

A storm front passed through the state Wednesday and Thursday bringing high winds and flash flooding to many areas, causing some damage to standing corn. Wet conditions continue to be a problem.

Temperatures: A strong cold front moved across the region early Thursday producing near to below averages for the week. The highest reported temperature was 72 degrees at Williamson. The lowest reported temperature was 14 degrees at Romney. The state-wide weekly average temperature was 43 degrees.

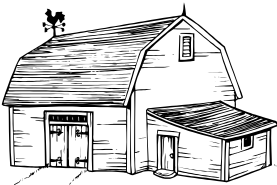
Precipitation: As the cold front approached the area on Wednesday, very heavy rain was seen over most of the southwestern and central part of the area. Rainfall amounts of 2 to 3 inches or more produced rainfall totals of up to 3 to 5 times the average across much of the area. The state average was 1.70 inches.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 3.0 last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	PERCENT			
Current Week	–	–	75	25
Last Week	--	2	71	27
Last Year	–	2	80	18

Farm activities included grain harvesting, late hay making and bale moving, marketing cattle and preparing for winter.



FRUIT

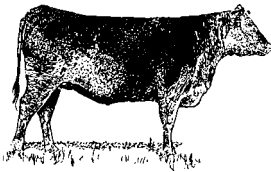
Apples were 97 percent harvested.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	PERCENT				
Cattle & Calves	--	1	20	72	7
Sheep & Lambs	--	1	18	72	9
Wheat	--	--	17	81	2

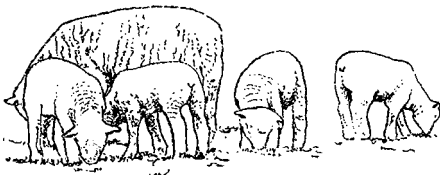
GRAINS

Corn was 71 percent harvested for grain, compared with 78 percent last year and 83 percent for the 5-yr. average. Soybeans were 75 percent harvested for grain, compared with 70 percent last year and 87 percent for the 5-yr. average. Winter Wheat conditions ranged from fair to excellent, but most fields were estimated as good. Fields were 87 percent planted, compared with 99 percent in 2002 and 94 percent for the 5-yr. average. The crop was 73 percent emerged compared with 90 percent this time last year and 66 percent for a 5-yr. average.



LIVESTOCK

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most herds being in good condition.



HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

YEAR	CORN	WHEAT		SOYBEANS
	HARVESTED	PLANTED	EMERGED	HARVESTED
2003	71	87	73	75
2002	78	99	90	70
5 YR AVG	83	94	66	87

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

Top Soil Moisture: (with top-soil defined as the top 6 inches):

- Very Short - Soil moisture supplies are significantly less than what is required for normal plant development. Growth has been stopped or nearly so and plants are showing visible signs of moisture stress. Under these conditions, plants will quickly suffer irreparable damage.
- Short - Soil dry. Seed germination and/or normal crop growth and development would be curtailed.
- Adequate - Soil moist. Seed germination and/or crop growth and development would be normal or unhindered.
- Surplus - Soil wet. Fields may be muddy and will generally be unable to absorb additional moisture. Young, developing crops may be yellowing from excess moisture.

Days Suitable for Fieldwork: A 'suitable' day is one where weather and field conditions allowed producers to work in fields a major portion of that day.

Crop Progress Percents: Progress percents relate to acres and should indicate the progress of field activities or crop development. Generally, an acre should be considered in or beyond a phenological stage when 50 percent or more of the plants in that acre are in or beyond that stage.

General Crop Condition:

- Very Poor - Extreme degree of loss to yield potential, complete or near crop failure. Pastures provide very little or no feed considering the time of year. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Poor - Heavy degree of loss to yield potential which can be caused by excess soil moisture, drought, disease, etc. Pastures are providing only marginal feed for the current time of year. Some supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Fair - Less than normal crop condition. Yield loss is a possibility, but the extent is unknown. Pastures are providing generally adequate feed, but still less than normal for the time of year.
- Good - Yield prospects are normal. Moisture levels are adequate and disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are minor. Pastures are providing adequate feed supplies for the current time of year.
- Excellent - Yield prospects are above normal. Crops are experiencing little or no stress. Disease, insect damage, and weed pressures are insignificant. Pastures are supplying feed in excess of what is normally expected at the current time of year.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 16, 2003

TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION						
STATION	HIGH	LOW	WEEKLY AVERAGE	WEEKS DEPARTURE	TOTAL	WEEKS NORM	SINCE APRIL 1st		SEASON NORM	
							2003	2002		
--NORTHWEST--										
WHEELING	62	31	45			0.10		25.29	28.18	
PARKERSBURG	64	30	45	- 1		1.66	0.77	40.50	28.72	27.69
CRESTON	64	23	43			1.29		36.06	31.21	
--NORTHCENTRAL--										
MORGANTOWN	63	28	46			1.74		45.73	32.01	
CLARKSBURG	63	24	43	- 1		2.77	0.83	37.56	30.23	28.04
BELINGTON	63	21	43			1.82		38.72	33.08	
WESTON	63	25	44			2.00		47.65	39.30	
--SOUTHWEST--										
WILLIAMSON	72	27	48			1.11		35.61	35.67	
HUNTINGTON	69	29	48	+ 1		2.56	0.77	40.16	27.21	27.24
CHARLESTON	68	25	45	- 3		4.23	0.84	38.16	28.59	27.94
RIPLEY	65	27	45			1.50		40.71	32.57	
--CENTRAL--										
TERRA ALTA	57	15	39			2.05		53.59	36.25	
ELKINS	63	25	44	+ 2		2.80	0.77	45.23	36.26	29.97
MARLINTON	57	19	36			2.37		40.85	33.05	
BECKLEY	64	25	42	- 2		1.55	0.70	41.23	30.48	27.22
--SOUTHERN--										
PINEVILLE	66	27	43			1.33		48.76	31.76	
BLUEFIELD	64	24	41	- 5		0.64	0.63	33.79	27.48	25.86
WHITE SUL SP	64	26	41			1.27		41.48	32.27	
FLAT TOP	64	25	42			1.55		41.40	30.54	
--NORTHEASTERN--										
MARTINSBURG	58	30	45	0		0.98	0.70	37.88	32.38	25.83
ROMNEY	64	14	40			1.10		36.29	30.58	
MOOREFIELD	63	18	40			1.05		38.23	31.28	

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

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